

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MUSCAT 01395 291037Z  
ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 AF-04 PM-03 SP-02 L-01 NSC-05  
IO-03 INR-05 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /045 W  
-----084128 292037Z /41

R 291001Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3631  
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
USMISSION USUN  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

S E C R E T MUSCAT 1395

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OVIP, PINT, MU, SF  
SUBJECT: OMANI VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA

REF MUSCAT 1359 (NOTAL)

1. FONMIN ZAWAWI RETURNED MUSCAT SEPT. 27 FROM HIS BRIEF TRIP TO SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND IMMEDIATELY REPORTED TO SULTAN QABOOS IN SALALAH. ON MORNING SEPT 29, HE RECEIVED ME (IN RESPONSE TO MY REQUEST OF WEEK AGO TO SEE HIM ON ANOTHER SUBJECT) AND VOLUNTEERED FOL COMMENTS ON HIS TRIP.

2. HE VISITED BOTH PRETORIA AND SALISBURY, EACH FOR DAY AND A HALF. THIS, HE SAID, WAS AT REQUEST OF SULTAN QABOOS WHO BELIEVES THAT IT BEHOOVES OMAN TO ESTABLISH SOME SORT OF DIRECT CONTACT WITH THOSE AND OTHER SOUTHERN AFRICAN AND INDIAN OCEAN STATES WHICH ARE CONCERNED FOR SECURITY OF THIS GENERAL REGION. ZAWAWI SAID HE INTENDS TO VISIT SOME OTHER STATES OF REGION AS WELL (HE MENTIONED MOZAMBIQUE, SEYCHELLES, COMOROS AND SRI LANKA) BEFORE LONG. HE SAID HIS RECENT VISIT MIGHT RAISE SOME EYEBROWS IF IT BECAME KNOWN BUT THAT THE SULTAN BELIEVES OMAN

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 MUSCAT 01395 291037Z

MUST BECOME MORE KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT EVENTS IN AREA AROUND IT AND THAT IT MUST NOT BE OVERLY CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT OTHERS MAY THINK. SAID OMAN SPECIFICALLY WISHED USG TO KNOW ABOUT THESE CONTACTS AND TO UNDERSTAND THAT IN NO WAY IS IT PUSHING ITSELF FORWARD AS A MEDIATOR OF ANY AFRICAN PROBLEMS.

3. ZAWAWI MENTIONED THAT SOUTH AFRICAN OFFICIALS WITH WHOM HE

SPOKE (NO NAMES GIVEN) EXHIBITED CONSIDERABLE ANGER ABOUT ATTITUDE THAT WESTERN COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN TAKING TOWARD SOUTH AFRICA IN RECENT MONTHS. THEY SAID THEY OBJECTED TO PRESSURES THEY WERE UNDERGOING IN THIS REGARD, AND THAT THEY DOUBTED THEY WOULD BE GETTING SO MUCH STATIC AND HAVING SO MANY "DEMANDS" MADE OF THEM FROM THE SOVIET UNION IF THEY HAPPENED TO BE A COMMUNIST COUNTRY. THEY SEEMED ESPECIALLY UPSET ABOUT USG HAVING REMONSTRATED WITH THEM SEVERAL WEEKS AGO ABOUT "HOLES IN THE KALAHARI DESERT" ON BASIS OF INFORMATION PASSED TO USG BY THE SOVIETS. ZAWAII CLAIMS TO HAVE ASKED HIS PRETORIA HOSTS WHAT THE TRUTH WAS ABOUT THESE "HOLES" AND WHETHER THEY MIGHT BE PLACES FOR DEPOSITING NUCLEAR WASTE MATERIAL, AND TO HAVE GOTTEN A "NO COMMENT" RESPONSE.

4. ASKED IF HE HAD MET WITH ANY BLACK LEADERS IN EITHER PRE-TORIA OR SALISBURY, ZAWAII SAID NO. THEY HAD BEEN WILLING, BUT IT COULD NOT BE ARRANGED IN THE TIME HE HAD AT HIS DISPOSAL.

5. ZAWAII SAID HE RETURNED TO MUSCAT VIA FEZ, MOROCCO, WHERE HE MET WITH VACATIONING CROWN PRINCE FAHD OF SAUDI ARABIA.

6. COMMENT. WE FIND THESE LIGHTNING VISITS BY ZAWAII TO SUCH REMOTE SPOTS TO BE RATHER ODD. THEY SEEM TO REFLECT THE ULTRA-CONSERVATIVE ATTITUDE OF THE SULTAN AND HIS PRINCIPAL ADVISORS TOWARD EVENTS IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD, AND A SUDDEN DESIRE FOR OMAN TO BE MORE WIDELY RECOGNIZED WITHIN LEADERSHIP ECHELONS  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 MUSCAT 01395 291037Z

IN COUNTRIES AROUND THE WESTERN PORTION OF THE INDIAN OCEAN AS A SMALL BUT DETERMINED "FORCE" AGAINST ALLOWING UNSTABILIZING CHANGES IN THE POLITICAL STATUS QUO. WE WONDER IF THE SAUDIS MAY POSSIBLY BE PUTTING THE SULTAN UP TO THIS SUDDEN ACTIVITY, BUT HAVE NO EVIDENCE THIS IS THE CASE.  
WOLLE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECURITY, MINISTERIAL VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 29-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MUSCAT01395  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770355-0925  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** MUSCAT  
**Handling Restrictions:**  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t1977098/aaaaagne.tel  
**Line Count:** 100  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** e50f0e49-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Reference:** 77 MUSCAT 1359  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1327074  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** OMANI VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA AND RHODESIA  
**TAGS:** OVIP, PINT, MU, SF, RH, XO, (ZAWAWI, QAYS \ABD AL-MUNIM)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/e50f0e49-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009